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Ashby Woulds
Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
SURVEYOR & SANITARY INSPECTOR
for the Year 1955.

BY
A. W. McM. SEGERDAL,
M.D., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.



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Ashby Woulds Urban District Council

Medical Officer of Health :

A. McM. W. SEGERDAL, M.D., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector :

R. B. HALL (to April 1st, 1955)

Clerk to the Council : W. JONES.

Chairman of the Council :

ALDERMAN E. W. TANDY, J.P.

Chairman Public Health Committee :

COUNCILLOR F. YATES.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Ashby Woulds
Urban District Council :*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1955.

According to the Registrar General's estimate the population has increased slightly from 3,380 in 1954 to 3,390 in 1955.

The birth rate (13.5) is almost the same as last year (13.6) and lower than that for England and Wales (15.0).

The death rate (9.4) is lower than last year (11.3) and lower than that for England and Wales (11.7).

The chief causes of deaths were in diseases associated with elderly people.

The Derwent Valley Scheme has now been linked to the Swadlincote and Ashby Water Board, which should improve the water supply position.

The district is seriously affected by mining subsidence, which is causing damage to numerous properties, roads, sewers and water mains.

I am pleased to report at last a welcome definite increase in the number of children being immunised against diphtheria.

Three houses were completed during the year, making a total of 331 houses completed in the post-war period. Owing to mining subsidence no houses were completed by the local authority during the year. Land has now been obtained from the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District for housing and other development.

The number of applicants for Council Houses is now 150 and the number of applications received during the year 28.

During the year 85 cases of infectious diseases were notified :
2 Scarlet Fever, 3 Pneumonia, and 80 Measles.

One case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was notified during the year.

I should like to thank the staff of the Public Health Department of the County Council for their help and co-operation. I should like to welcome Mr. Webb, the new Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, and to thank him and Mr. C. Chadbourne, Senior Foreman, who was Acting Surveyor, for their invaluable assistance.

Finally, I wish to thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen, for your kindness and co-operation.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. McM. W. SEGERDAL,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

General Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area	2,427	acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	3,390	
Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1955	1,081	
Rateable Value	£18,142	
Sum represented by a penny rate	£71	
Comparability factor	Deaths	1.13
	Births	.98

The chief industries of the District are : Engineering, Agriculture, Coalmining, Earthenware and Brickmaking. No industry was noted as having an injurious effect on the health of the District. The District is seriously affected by mining subsidence which is causing damage to numerous properties, roads, sewers and water mains.

There are three recreation grounds with an acreage of $12\frac{1}{2}$ acres in the Urban District.

Vital Statistics.

			<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births—Legitimate	25	21	46		
Illegitimate	1	-	1		
	—	—	—		
Total	26	21	47		
	—	—	—		

Crude Birth Rate : 13.6 per 1,000 population.

Adjusted Birth Rate : 13.5 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Birth Rate : 15.0 per 1,000 population.

			<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Still Births—Legitimate	1	-	1		
Illegitimate	-	-	-		
	—	—	—		
Total	1	-	1		
	—	—	—		

Total Births 48

Crude Stillbirth Rate : 20.8 per 1,000 total live and still births.

Adjusted Stillbirth Rate : 20.4 per 1,000 total live and still births.

England and Wales Stillbirth Rate : 23.1 per 1,000 total live and still births.

			<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Deaths	23	9	32		

Crude Death Rate : 9.4 per 1,000 population.

Adjusted Death Rate : 10.6 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Death Rate : 11.7 per 1,000 population.

Causes of Death during 1955.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	2	-	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	1	-	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	3	2	5
Coronary disease, angina	5	2	7
Hypertension with heart disease ...	2	-	2
Other heart disease	2	1	3
Other circulatory disease	1	-	1
Pneumonia	-	1	1
Bronchitis	1	1	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	-	1	1
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	1	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	23	9	32
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Death Rate from total maternal causes per 1,000 births
(Live and Still) : 0.

Ditto England and Wales : .64.

Death of Infants under 1 year of age :-

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	1	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Crude Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000
live births : 21.4.

Ditto England and Wales : 24.9.

Death of Infants under 4 weeks of age :-

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Death Rate of Infants under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 live
and still births : 0.

Ditto England and Wales : 17.3.

Chief causes of Death during 1955.

Disease of Heart and Circulation : 18.

Cancer : 5.

The figures for England and Wales are provisional.

SECTION B.

General Provisions of Health Services for the Area.

All hospitals except a few private Maternity and Nursing Homes are under the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. The County Homes for the aged and infirm are under the auspices of the County Council. When their residents take ill they become the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board.

Treatment Centres and Clinics

Infant Welfare Clinics are held every second and fourth Thursday afternoon at the Centenary Methodist Church, Donisthorpe Road, Moira. The Ante-Natal Clinics are held at Bridge Road, Coalville, and the Tuberculosis Clinic at Markfield Sanatorium under the Regional Hospital Board.

Ambulance Facilities.

The County Council is responsible for all ambulance facilities in the County. Colliery accidents are removed by Ambulances provided by the National Coal Board stationed at Nailstone Colliery and Moira Colliery.

Nursing in the Home.

All district Nursing and Midwifery is under the County Council.

Health Visiting.

This work is provided by the County Council and is very ably carried out in the area. A Diabetic Health Visitor attends the Clinic at the Leicester Royal Infirmary and visits the patients in their homes.

Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory at Isolation Hospital, Groby Road, Leicester. Examinations performed — Nil.

Generally there is co-operation between the local authority and the services provided by the Executive Council and Hospital Boards, and the tendency is towards closer integration.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply.

Water is obtained in bulk supply from the Swadlincote and Ashby Joint Water Board and restriction has been imposed due to low rainfall. The quality of the water is satisfactory. The Derwent Valley Scheme has been linked to the Water Board which should improve the supply position.

The whole of the area is supplied with mains water.

Periodical water analysis is carried out by the Water Board.

Sewage Disposal.

There are eight cesspools in the district. Improvement has been carried out to sewers and sewage outfall works on account of damage caused by mining subsidence.

Practically the whole of the area has efficient sewerage.

Closet Accommodation.

The total number in District on 31st December, 1955.
(1) Privies 8. (2) Pail Closets 24. (3) W.C.'s 781.

Number of closets converted to the water carriage system during year : (a) Privies 0 ; (b) Pails 1.

A grant is made towards the cost of conversion.

Number of privies (middens) converted to pail closets during the year : 0.

Earth closets, privies, ashpits and cesspools are emptied weekly by the Council's workmen. The contents of cesspools and nightsoil is carted to the sewage disposal works.

Public Cleansing.

The whole district is covered by weekly collection of house refuse and conveyed by Shelvoke and Drewry Refuse Freighter to a crude tip.

Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

(a) Total number of complaints received	...	...	31
(b) Total number of premises at which defects or nuisances were dealt with	...	...	31
(c) Total number of nuisances or defects dealt with in (b)	...	...	31

Inspections Made :-

	<i>Number of Inspections.</i>			
Animal Keeping	1
Bakehouses	4
Drainage Works	154
Dwelling Houses (all purposes)	380
Food Premises	6
Refuse Collection and Disposal	281
Rodent Control	4
Shops	21
Slaughter-Houses and Meat Inspection	62
Verminous and Dirty Premises	7
Water Supplies	681
Workshops, Outworkers, etc.	16
Other Inspections	34
Total	1,651

Notices.

Preliminary :-	Housing	Public Health
Issued during year	1	2
Complied with during year ...	1	2

No Statutory Notices have been served during the year.

Shops.

Action taken during the year under the Provisions of Section 38 of the Shops Act, 1950 :-

	<i>Outstanding from Previous Year.</i>	<i>Defects found.</i>	<i>Defects remedied</i>	<i>Outstanding 31st. Dec.</i>
Sanitary Conveniences ...	-	2	2	-
Washing Facilities... ..	1	-	1	-
Facilities for taking meals	-	1	-	1

Camping Sites.

Number of licenses issued for movable dwellings, Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936 : 3.

The Pet Animals Act.

No premises in district.

Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act 1951.

No premises in district.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The part-time Council Rodent Operator dealt with all cases of infestations.

Number of Schools disinfected : 2.

Swimming Baths and Pools open to the Public.

None in district.

SECTION D.

Housing.

New Houses.

Houses completed during the year :-

By Private Enterprise : 3 permanent houses.

Houses in course of erection at end of year :-

By Private Enterprise : 1 permanent house.

Number of Post War Houses completed by :-

(a) Local Authority	212
(b) Private Enterprise	19

Total number of applicants for Council Houses at
end of year 150

Number of applications received during the year ... 28

Number of Council Houses in the district prior to the
war (1939) 138

About 28 acres of land has been transferred from Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District to Ashby Wolds Urban District Council for building and other development.

Housing Summary.

- (a) Total number of houses occupied in district ... 1,081
 (b) Total number of Council houses occupied in district 350

Housing Act 1949.

Number of applications for reconditioning grants ... 2

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Number of premises registered :-

(a) Manufacture and Retail	...	...	...	Nil
(b) Manufacture only	...	...	...	Nil
(c) Retail only	...	...	...	8

Milk Supply.

Dairies and Distributors :-

	<i>Number on Register.</i>	<i>Number of Inspections.</i>
Dairies ...	Nil	Nil
Distributors ...	7	Nil

Biological Milk Samples : 2 taken by the County Council.

Bacteriological Milk Sampling : No action taken.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949.

Particulars of Licences issued :-

(a) Dealers Licences	...	...	...	Nil
(b) Supplementary Licences	...	...	...	5

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Milk Regulations, 1949.

Particulars of Licences issued :-

	<i>Pasteurised.</i>	<i>Sterilised.</i>
(a) Dealers Licences	... Nil	... Nil
(b) Supplementary Licences	... 4	... Nil

Action taken in case where there was evidence of living
 Tubercle Bacilli or Brucella Abortus :-

Tests showed one Shorthorn suffering from T.B. The animal was slaughtered under the T.B. Order of 1938. The herd has now been given full clearance.

Meat and Other Foods.

Private

Number of slaughter houses in area	...	...	...	3
Number of animals slaughtered in area...	...	...	...	115
Number of animals examined therein	...	...	...	115
Number of inspections of meat at time of slaughter (carried out by L.C.C.)	...	...	...	41
Number of Knacker Yards in Area	...	...	...	Nil

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

			<i>Cattle excluding Cows.</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed (if known) ...	...	...	35	24	56
Number inspected ...	...	...	35	24	56

All Diseases except Tuberculosis.

Whole carcasses condemned ...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	...	...	8	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis ...	...	...	24%	-	-

Tuberculosis only.

Whole carcasses condemned ...	...	...	1	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	...	...	2	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	...	...	10%	-	-

Meat Stalls.

No action taken.

Meat Shops, Meat Stores, etc.

Number of inspections ...	...	...	...	...	8
Places where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale ...	...	...	...	...	41

Clean Food Campaign.

All the Canteens in the District, including Schools and Cafes were visited and publicity work was carried out ; posters and leaflets were distributed and special attention was paid to all the facilities available.

SECTION F.

Prevalence and Control over Infectious Disease.

Infectious Diseases (other than tuberculosis) during 1955

<i>Disease.</i>		<i>Final numbers after correction.</i>	<i>Cases admitted to hospital.</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
Measles ...	...	80	-	-
Pneumonia ...	...	3	-	1
Scarlet Fever ...	...	2	-	-
		—	—	—
		85	-	1
		—	—	—

Analysis under Age Groups according to Registrar General's Return 118d.

<i>Age Groups.</i>	<i>Measles.</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever.</i>
Under 1	1	-
1 - 2	7	-
3 - 4	16	-
5 - 9	55	2
10 - 14	1	-
15 - 24	-	-
25 and over	-	-
Age unknown	-	-
	<hr/> 80	<hr/> 2

<i>Age Groups.</i>	<i>Pneumonia</i>
Under 5	-
5 - 14	-
15 - 44	-
45 - 64	2
65 and over	1
	<hr/>
Total ...	3

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

Number of children who were immunised during the
period 1st January to 31st December, 1955.

Age at 31.12.55 i.e., Born In Year	Under 1 yr. 1955	1 1954	2 1953	3 1952	4 1951	5 1950	6 1949	7 1948	8 1947	9 1946	10 1945	11 1944
Primary Immunisation	3	28	7	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
Booster Injections	0	0	0	0	0	22	3	3	1	0	1	0

Total : Primary Immunisation 42. Booster Injection 30.

Statement of Particulars appearing in the Tuberculosis Register for the year ending 31st December, 1955.

	<i>Males</i>		<i>Females</i>		
	<i>Pul.</i>	<i>Non. Pul.</i>	<i>Pul.</i>	<i>Non. Pul.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number of Cases on Register at the commencement of year	-	3	3	1	7
Number of Cases notified for the first time during the year	-	1	-	-	1
Number of Cases added to Register other than by formal notification	-	-	-	-	-
Number of Cases restored to Register	-	-	-	-	-
Number of Cases removed from the Register during the year	-	1	-	-	1
Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year	-	3	3	1	7

Causes of Removal.

	Males		Females		Total
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
Cured ...	-	1	-	-	1
Left County ...	-	-	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	-	1	-	-	1

There is a free co-operation between local authority and the Chest Physician, and every assistance is given in the ascertainment of contacts, re-housing or in employment.

A special clinic for contacts has been working very satisfactory and general practitioners have availed themselves fully of X-ray facilities.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

Resume of the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1955, which has already been sent to the Ministry of Labour and National Service, Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts.

PART I. OF THE ACT.

- Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector).

Premises.	Number on Register.	Inspection.	Written Notices.
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	14	16	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	14	16	-

- Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found :	
	Found.	Remedied.
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	1	1
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)		
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	2	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	3	3

PART VIII. OF THE ACT.

Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

Section 110 :-

Nature of Work.	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) (3)
Lace, Lace Curtains and Nets ...	1

